Ottawa metro

WEEKEND APRIL 1-3, 2016

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Taxi union fumes over Uber-friendly bylaw

RIDE-SHARING

Union prez storms out of city briefing

Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

More than a year after Uber cruised into Ottawa — ignoring bylaws and infuriating cab drivers — city staff are taking steps to make the ride-hailing app legal.

The proposed sweeping changes to the taxi bylaw are meant to level the playing field between private ride-hailing companies and the cab industry.

But the taxi union, already in a battle against Uber, is left fuming.

Amrik Singh, president of Unifor Local 1688, stormed out of the city's technical briefing on the new bylaw on Thursday. He has been leading the charge against Uber through protests at city hall and Parliament Hill.

While admitting he had yet to read the full 116-page report, Singh said he was unimpressed with his first glance.

"There is nothing for taxi drivers," he told reporters outside the briefing. "What did we do wrong to deserve this?"

Hanif Patni, president of taxi dispatcher Coventry Connections, said the new rules "obviously hurt us tremendously. We have worked so hard to raise taxi standards and make sure that they're safe for customers."

Coun. Diane Deans, chair of the community and protective services committee, said the proposed changes do a lot for the cab drivers, like eliminating the $1.50 credit and debit transaction fees and reducing taxi licence costs by $74.

Since Uber launched in Ottawa in October 2014, city bylaw officers have laid 174 charges against 78 drivers. Uber has previously argued that it's a ride-hailing app and therefore should not be subjected to the same licensing and brokerage rules as taxis.

In an emailed statement, Uber spokeswoman Susie Heath said the company was still reviewing the report, but applauded the mayor, Deans and city staff for "their recognition of the public demand for new technologies, and for working diligently to find accommodation through changes in regulations."

The real debate starts at City Hall on April 7 when the report goes before the community and protective services committee. If there are enough delegates lined up to speak, the committee may overflow to April 8.

WITH FILES FROM EMMA JACKSON

More on the taxi review: metroNEWS

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Nintendo launches long-overdue foray into mobile with Miitomo. **Business**

5 THINGS TO DO IN OTTAWA THIS WEEKEND

Expect April showers (and snow), but you can still celebrate the best of spring with tacos, antiques, flowers and maple syrup.

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

1 Taco fest (Saturday)

It's the third annual TacoFest and Ottawa's culinary pros will be showing off both traditional and innovative recipes on Saturday. Head to the Shaw Convention Centre from 5 to 10 p.m. for drinks, tacos and local DJs. Entry tickets are $10 and most food will be priced for $2 to $5. The event is cash only and attendees must be 19 and older.

2 Irish film festival (all weekend)

Curious about Irish film? Head to the Arts Court Theatre (2 Daly Ave.) from Friday to Sunday for a selection of seven films. Usual movie theatre fare will be on sale as well as "treats from Ireland" and alcohol and wine before the screening. Tickets are $10 in advance or $12 at the door. A full schedule can be found at pamurray73.wix.com/irishfilmfestivalott.

3 Ikebana (all weekend)

The ancient Japanese art of floral design returns to the Museum of Nature for this weekend only. From March 31 to April 3 there will be 50 floral arrangements designed by the Ottawa chapter of Ikebana International on display. Cost is included with museum admission ($13.50 for adults, $9.50 for children under 13.)

4 Antique and Vintage Market (all weekend)

The old is new again at the spring Ottawa Antique and Vintage Market this weekend at Carleton University's field house. On Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. vendors will offer a varied selection of clothes, collectibles and housewares. Tickets are $10 but discount coupons are available online.

5 Festival Des Sucres (all weekend)

You're in for a sweet treat this weekend: it's Sugarfest at the Museoparc Vanier. In addition to guided tours of the sugar shack, there will be a lumberjack competition, farm and reptiles, sleigh rides and dogs, stilt walkers and a traditional brunch or soup dinner. The full schedule can be found at museoparc.ca.

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CRAFT BEER

Brew Donkey's tours a great way to learn, bond, indulge

One of Ottawa's biggest craft-beer boosters is the always-upbeat Brew Donkey. Owner Brad Campeau got his first taste of mobile food production running a now-defunct bakery called B. Goods, a cookie-baking truck that served festivals and farmers' markets. Now he runs the 613's favourite beer-related service provider. Brew Donkey is your local go-to for beer delivery, empty growler pickup and fun-yet-informative brewery tours.

You may have first heard of Brew Donkey last spring, when the company garnered a lot of attention as the Travel Industry Council of Ontario (TICO), which oversees the province's travel agents, challenged them for offering bus tours despite not actually being a travel agent.

While the company searched for a solution with regulators, they continued to offer tours at no charge and accepted donations from satisfied customers. After discussions at Queen's Park, a temporary solution was reached in which they separated the payments for the tour ticket and for the bus ticket. Draft amendments are currently being reviewed to change the regulations and make it easier for businesses like Brew Donkey to operate (huzzah!).

So while the challenges hurt the business, the media coverage was actually a positive. Brew Donkey has risen from the ashes of regulatory paperwork like a fiery winged burro, now offering more tours and opening a new physical location.

One of the stops on the Brew Donkey craft beer tour. New tours are constantly being unveiled. COURTESY INDIE CALENDAR

I can attest, from "research," that the tours are a heckuva time! New tours are constantly being unveiled, with innovative pairings that combine breweries with events, distilleries, areas of historical intrigue and so much more.

A certain sign of success of the bus tours is their recently announced expansion to Kitchener-Waterloo.

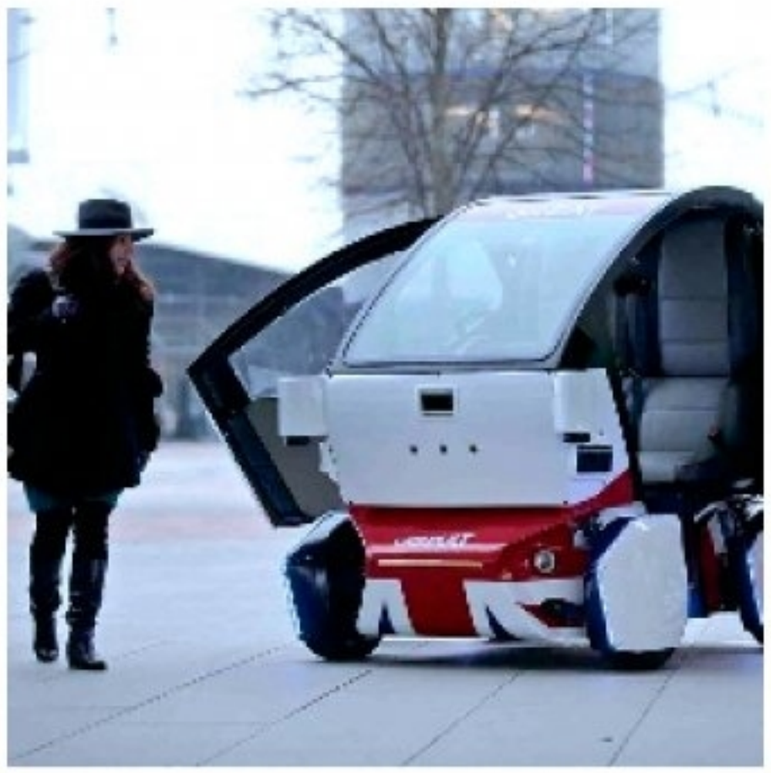
Beyond the bus, Brew Donkey offers walking tours mid-week in the ByWard Market and Hintonburg. According to the Brew Donkey team, the most fun part is watching this group of school-bus-riding strangers become friends as they lose their inhibitions with each stop. Seeing a group of individuals — and yes, there are often solo tourists on the bus — learn about Ottawa as they explore is rewarding for the team. Campeau sees it all going hand-in-hand: "Great beer is the perfect friend-maker, and our tours are no exception."

Campeau has been involved in the local brewery scene since 2013 and has seen a steady growth of new businesses. Beyond the new or soon-to-be new breweries within the city limits, there are also those opening in rural communities such as Carleton Place, Almonte and Embrun that will add exciting new stops and tour packages. Just make sure to hit the washroom before boarding the bus for the longer rides.

If you want to meet the Brew Donkey team or get more information on a tour, you can visit its new space. The freshly opened storefront is a co-habitation with the uber-hip Maker House at 987 Wellington St W. in Hintonburg. The fit between the two companies is fantastic, as the handmade goods sold through Maker House are in line with the interest of the craft-beer supporters. Many brewery tours will meet and end at this location, and it will be a go-to spot for local beer merchandise. Don't miss the launch party April 22: We've Got SWAG(er) that will show off their collection of available beer swag.

HOP-PENINGS

- In case you missed it, Beau's threw an outlandishly fun party for St. Patrick's Day.
- Carleton University's Dr. Matthew Bellamy of the Department of History will tell the story of how Labatt brewers and its allies turned Canada into a beer-drinking nation at Bowman's Bar and Grill on Monday, April 4. Post-secondary education?
- queering613.ca presents Queers and Beers on April 1 at Mill St. Brewery.
- Whiprsnapr has just released its seasonal and breakfast-time favourite Blueberry Pancakes, which, of course, is brewed with real blueberries and maple syrup.
- Muskoka Brewery's Legendary Oddity has landed at Ottawa LCBOs and Beer Stores. It's a classic Belgian-style ale ... with the addition of heather tips, juniper berries, sweet orange peel shavings and candi sugar!
- East Meats West: on Sunday April 10, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., Brothers Beer Bistro is uniting Ottawa's hemispheres with a pair of unique collaboration beers crafted by its staff in partnership with breweries from opposite ends of Ottawa. The Brothers/DCBC collaboration will be For Whom Dubbel Tolls. The Brothers/Whiprsnapr collab will be Bruv.



A woman checks out a prototype driverless car during a launch event in London on Feb. 11, 2015. MATT DUNHAM/AP PHOTO

City drives into future

AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

Push is on to make Ottawa industry hub

Ottawa could be on its way to becoming a hub for the self-driving car industry if Kanata North BIA executive director Jenna Sudds has her way.

"My interest in autonomous vehicles, having a number of phenomenal companies here in Kanata North and across the city, is really to find a way for us to have a test bed in our city. How can we collectively push forward in that lane?" Sudds said this week at a networking breakfast event focused on the future of the autonomous vehicle industry.

Canadian Automated Vehicles Centre for Excellence executive director Barrie Kirk and QNX Software Systems senior vice-president John Wall were the guest speakers at the breakfast held at the Marshes Golf Club.

Ottawa tech companies such as QNX may have an established presence in the world of car software but, as Wall pointed out, haven't had much widespread recognition.

"Any car with a screen and entertainment, we have more than 50 per cent of the market share. They hear about Android and Linux, but they don't hear about us," he said.

According to Kirk, it's up to the city to evolve in order to take advantage of its established software base. He also welcomed investment announced in the recent federal budget that would develop safety regulations for emerging technologies that include self-driving cars.

Kirk did note, however, that Canada falls behind other G7 countries when it comes to preparing for what he said will be a hugely disruptive digital technology.

MARC SHAW/OTTAWA BUSINESS JOURNAL

DEATH

School board fined

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

The Ottawa Catholic School Board has been fined $250,000 following the death of a maintenance worker at St. Nicholas Adult High School.

The victim, employed by the board, was replacing a safety cage on a ceiling light in the school's gymnasium on Jan. 9, 2015, when he was fatally struck by an aerial lifting device he was using.

The board pleaded guilty Thursday to "failing as an employer to take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of a worker," according to a release.

The court also imposed a 25 per cent victim fine surcharge, which is transferred to a fund to assist victims of crime.

WELLINGTON WEST

Paid parking not an option: Councillor

Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

Paid parking is the one tool the city won't use to combat congestion in Wellington West, Coun. Jeff Leiper has said.

About 40 residents and business owners came out Wednesday night to hear details of an ongoing local parking study.

Stretching from Island Park Drive to the O-Train, staff found parking issues were mixed. Some spots, like Hintonburg's trendy restaurant strip, were heavily used. Other areas suffered from loading dock conflicts, poor visibility or lack of bike parking.

But, for now at least, paid parking isn't a solution being considered to cut the crowding.

Leiper said he prefers bylaw enforcement instead.

"That's low-hanging fruit we need to pursue," he said.

But enforcement must go hand in hand with fixing the widespread inconsistencies in time limits, Leiper added.

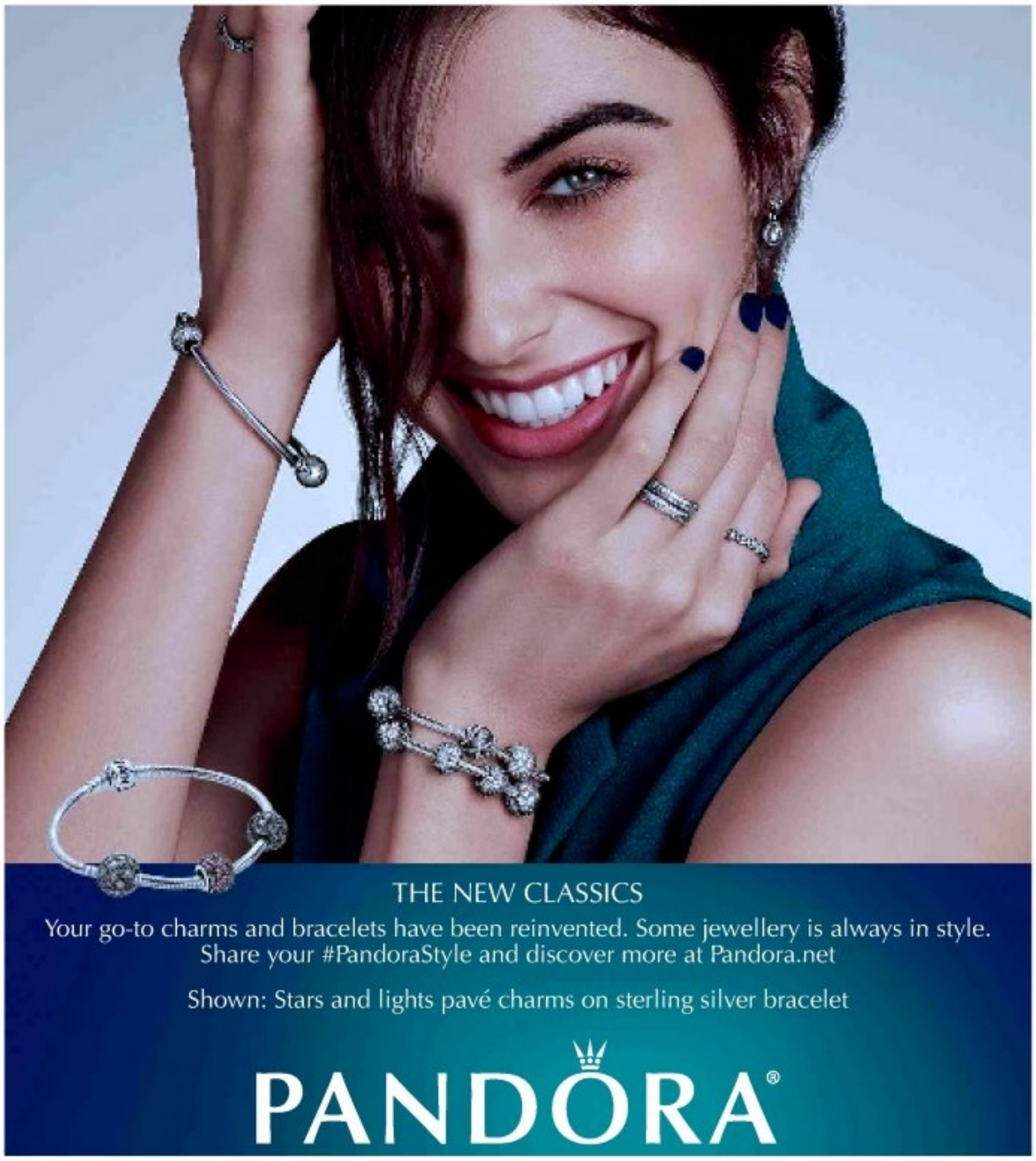
Two sides of the same street often have different time limits, staff found, and on Wellington Street the limits vary from 60 minutes to two hours. Drivers aren't following the rules, either because they're confused or frustrated: five to 10 per cent stay past the limit on Wellington, and 30 per cent stay over on side streets.

That's an interesting Catch-22, Leiper said.

While businesses want cars to cycle out regularly, customers also need time to enjoy a meal or attend an event.

"The best we can do is to suggest a consistent time limit along our main street that addresses the majority of what people need," Leiper said.

Residents can give feedback until April 29. Staff will make recommendations for all of Kitchissippi in the fall.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TRIATHLON SWIM, BIKE, RUN Athletes can do all three when the Canadian triathlon championships come to the capital for the first time this summer, and again in 2017. Triathlon Canada board member Christian Triquet, middle, announced the partnership with Ottawa Tourism and the city of Ottawa at Dow's Lake on Thursday, with the help of young elite triathletes Samantha Klus, left, and Kaitlin Jones. The two-day event this July will welcome elite and recreational athletes of all ages to take part in 10 races. EMMA JACKSON/METRO

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Consensus needed on donations: NDP

PROVINCIAL POLITICS

New rules to be outlined in the fall and enacted in 2018

Premier Kathleen Wynne admits this isn't the first time she's hearing complaints about the fundraising methods of Ontario's governing Liberals.

Former Liberal attorney general John Gerretsen, who did not run for re-election in 2014, told the premier before he left office that he was uncomfortable raising funds from lobbyists at private receptions, Wynne admitted Thursday.

"John Gerretsen is a friend, and he has expressed concerns about the way fundraising is done," she said. "Some of the things that he has said in the past are considerations that we're taking into account."

Facing accusations the Liberals are selling access to the premier and cabinet ministers at expensive and exclusive dinners and cocktail receptions, Wynne promised to tighten the rules on donations to political parties.

New rules would be outlined this fall, she said, but likely would not be enacted before the next Ontario election in 2018.

"If you look at the federal system, where union and corporate donations are not allowed, that's the model that we'll be moving towards, but also recognizing that it took a number of years for the federal government to get to that point," said Wynne.

Members of the Liberal caucus watch the introductions before Premier Kathleen Wynne addresses Liberals and party donors at last year's Ontario Liberal Party Heritage Dinner, their biggest fundraiser of the year. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Wynne said Ontario will also review the rules on third party advertising during elections, and will look at lower caps for personal contributions to political parties.

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath said people need to know that Ontario politics "isn't under the influence of big money," but she wants Wynne to consult before changing the rules.

"Decisions fundamental to how we elect governments and finance our democratic process must seek and obtain widespread consensus beyond the governing party and indeed beyond the parties themselves," said Horwath.

"The first step should be a meeting of the leaders of the three political parties currently represented at Queen's Park, together with Ontario's Chief Electoral Officer so we can discuss the practical steps needed to move ahead."

The non-profit group Democracy Watch said Horwath and Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown also hold high-priced, invitation-only fundraisers, and asked the Integrity Commissioner to declare such events as "illegal gifts" to politicians.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> If you look at the federal system, where union and corporate donations are not allowed, that's the model that we'll be moving towards. Premier Kathleen Wynne

IN BRIEF

U of O student federation make cuts, lays off staff

The University of Ottawa's Student Federation announced Thursday it is cutting back services and introducing layoffs to avoid bankruptcy.

The organization blamed its "significant cash flow shortage" on the rising costs of the student Health and Dental Insurance Plan and said it does not have the funds to pay summer staff.

As a result 24 staff members will be laid off.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

CRIME

Teen boy charged with harassment

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa police arrested a 16-year-old boy Thursday after receiving reports of a male threatening women in Barrhaven near Jockvale and Cedarview Roads.

The boy, who cannot be named because he is a youth, was charged with criminal harassment, mischief, and for breaching two court orders.

In a media release on Wednesday, police said a suspect approached a woman on Monday "in a threatening manner" and chased her down the street. She was able to flee the area.

Investigators were concerned there might be other victims and asked witnesses to come forward.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to call the Ottawa Police at 613-236-1222, ext. 7300. Anonymous tips can be submitted by calling Crime Stoppers or by downloading the Ottawa Police app.

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Amrik Singh, president of Ontario Taxi Local 1688, speaks with reporters about the proposed changes to the taxi bylaw review on Thursday. LUCY SCHOLEY /METRO

Uber is legal: What it means for you

TRANSPORT

New changes are meant to address shift in market

Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

The city revealed sweeping changes to its taxi regulations Thursday, to welcome ride-hailing companies and deregulate traditional taxis.

So how will it work?

Uber:

The city plans to legalize Uber and other ride-sharing companies with a new licensing category for "private transportation companies."

Uber would be treated like a taxi broker and charged based on its fleet size. In the spirit of public safety, drivers would require police and driving background checks, $5 million in liability insurance and vehicles no older than 10 years.

Instead of licensing drivers, who largely work part time, the city would take a 10.5 cent per-ride levy to cover costs. The city is also asking for a voluntary accessibility levy, which could be used to improve Para Transpo or other services.

Like now, Uber would only be allowed to arrange rides through its app: no hails or taxi stands allowed, and no cash fares. They'd still get to set their own rates, and surge pricing would be fair game. As Coun. Diane Deans said, the service is "buyer beware": Any problems should be taken up with Uber.

Taxis:

Taxi union president Amrik Singh was far from pleased about the recommendations, but Deans was adamant taxi drivers are getting a good deal.

The biggest change, for passengers anyway, is that taxis can apply surge pricing on rides hailed through their app, up to a maximum fare, or discount their fares to get an edge. The city will also drop the $1.50 debit/credit surcharge.

For drivers, licensing fees will be slashed from $170 to $96 (and eliminated for accessible drivers) and training won't be necessary unless they're an accessible driver. Specific vehicle standards like trunk size and camera brands are also gone, and drivers can keep cars on the road two years longer. However, their liability insurance will jump from $2 million to $5 million.

What's next:

Deans said the recommendations will allow taxis to "compete and innovate and succeed," while responding to "overwhelming" public demand for more market choice.

The recommendations will be debated at committee April 7 before heading to council April 13. If approved the bylaw would come into force June 30.

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This photo posted to Faith Strang's Facebook page shows her three children, who along with five other family members are believed to have been killed in a fire on the First Nations reserve in Pikangikum, Ont., on Tuesday. FACEBOOK.COM

They won't 'die in vain'

TRAGEDY

Six adults, 3 kids killed in First Nation community fire

A First Nations chief says the deaths of nine people in a house fire on a remote northern Ontario reserve should spur the federal government to improve what he says are third-world conditions on dozens of reserves.

"We can't let these people die in vain," Isadore Day with the Chiefs of Ontario said Thursday.

"There should be a direct and immediate response to this situation. This is typical across all First Nations that are living in third-world conditions."

A blaze that erupted in a family home late Tuesday night on the Pikangikum reserve killed six adults and three children.

Ontario Provincial Police said investigators and a stress team were in the community, but finding the cause of the blaze could take "a week or more."

A fundraising page created by a community member identified the dead as Gilbert and Annette Strang, their daughter Faith, Faith's husband Dietrich Peters and the younger couple's three children — Ireland, 4, Aubree, 2, and eight-month-old Amber.

The Strangs' son Gilbert and his wife Sylvia Peters also died in the fire, it said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Court rules Vice must give up background material

A Canadian news outlet must give the RCMP background materials used for stories on Farah Shirdon, a suspected terrorist, despite the reporter's objections, a judge has ruled. The Vice stories in 2014 were based on conversations Ben Makuch had with Shirdon via an online instant messaging app called Kik Messenger. RCMP want access to screen captures of those chats. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economy kicks of 2016 with strong growth

The Canadian economy kicked off 2016 by rocketing higher, raising hopes for better-than-expected growth this year.

Real gross domestic product rose 0.6 per cent in the first month of the year, boosted by manufacturing, retail trade and the oil and gas sector, Statistics Canada reported Thursday. The result was twice the 0.3 per cent that economists had expected for the month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CONTEST

Halifax Explosion story is heritage champ

Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

"Hurry! You've got to get these people out of here. That ship is going to blow," an actor playing train dispatcher Vince Coleman breathlessly says during a heritage minute re-enactment of the Halifax Explosion.

The Heritage Minutes series is an iconic Canadian tradition, providing short snippets of important moments in the country's history. Vimy Ridge, Terry Fox, Superman, Laura Secord and Agnes MacPhail are among 82 varied videos that make up the series.

On March 31, the Halifax Explosion minute was crowned champion of the Heritage Minutes following Historica Canada's #MinutesMadness Twitter contest.

Andrea Hall, communications spokeswoman for Historica Canada said the contest began March 7 as a lead-up to the 25th anniversary of the launch of the Heritage Minutes.

Each week viewers got to choose between a selection of videos. The contest garnered more than 2,000 votes. Voting closed at midnight Thursday.

The final two Heritage Minutes left standing were from Nova Scotia: the Halifax Explosion and the story of Viola Desmond challenging segregation in the province in the 1940s.

Desmond's Heritage Minute defeated the Underground Railroad, while the Halifax Explosion short video beat Dr. Wilder Penfield, credited with "drawing the road map of the human brain."

On Thursday morning, the Halifax Explosion video won over Viola Desmond with 62 per cent of the overall vote.

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CUISINE AND COUTURE IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Local shopping and dining are "a unique blend of city and country."

AWARD-WINNING RESTAURANTS AND ARTISANAL SHOPS ABOUND IN COSMOPOLITAN NORTHERN VIRGINIA. **CONTRIBUTED**

Northern Virginia is considered the hip and cosmopolitan side of the state, rich in crave-worthy cuisine and chic shopping. Next door to the United States' capital, this cultural region of Virginia attracts people from all over the world, creating distinctive food and fashion scenes.

Here, you can indulge in globally inspired dishes at award-winning restaurants or purchase handmade goodies to take home (if they last that long), from artisanal chocolates and cheeses to local coffee and spirits.

"You name the country, I guarantee we have the cuisine," says Cara O'Donnell, spokesperson for Arlington Convention and Visitors Service. "I made a whole A-Z list."

There's also a focus on locally grown and sourced ingredients, and plenty of chef-driven restaurants and purveyors of artisanal products.

Cheesetique in Alexandria and Arlington is not your traditional wine and cheese bar. It serves grown-up grilled cheese sandwiches complemented with Virginia wine; its mac 'n' cheese has been named one of the best in the U.S., and can be elevated with a Cambozola sauce, roasted tomatoes and hunks of bacon.

Nearby in Arlington is Artisan Confections, which specializes in handmade chocolates using high-quality ingredients, from French Valrhona chocolate to organic mint grown on a Maryland farm.

Over in Alexandria, there's a growing culinary scene that offers everything from casual eateries and markets to fine dining. In warm weather, there's plenty of al fresco dining in this pretty waterside town, with its patios, courtyards and sidewalk cafés.

The region also offers some of the best shopping in the country, from antique shops and art galleries to funky independent boutiques, high-end gallerias and budget outlet malls – not to mention the more than 300 stores at Tysons Corner Center, one of the largest shopping centres in the country.

Head to Leesburg to browse its charming antique shops, or peruse the art galleries in historic Occoquan for a one-of-a-kind find. Stroll historic King Street in Alexandria for dozens of independent shops in the Old Town Boutique District. There's luxury shopping at Fashion Centre at Pentagon City and Tysons Galleria in Fairfax County — considered the Rodeo Drive of the East Coast — and find big names at Leesburg Corner Premium Outlets & Potomac Mills Mall, the largest outlet mall in Virginia.

"There's a unique blend of city and country here," says O'Donnell. "You've got a real urban feel with the shopping centres, but drive a few miles away and you're in horse country with wineries, art galleries and antique shops."

And shoppers can save more of their travel dollars for dining and shopping in Northern Virginia, she says, since hotel pricing is at least 20 per cent less than across the state line in Washington, D.C. — a bonus for Canadian visitors.

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INDIA

Overpass collapse kills dozens

A long section of a road overpass under construction collapsed Thursday in a crowded Kolkata neighbourhood, with tons of concrete and steel slamming into midday traffic, leaving at least 21 people dead and scores of others injured in the Indian city, police said.

Rescuers used saws, small cranes and their bare hands to dig through the wreckage in search of survivors.

At least 21 people were killed, a police official said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media. It was not immediately clear how many people remained missing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greek lawmakers ready to OK migrant deportations

LEGISLATION

Over 50,000 stranded at border with Macedonia

Lawmakers in Greece were ready to support legislation to deport refugees back to Turkey as clashes between migrants persisted Thursday at overcrowded detention camps.

A three-hour fight broke out overnight between groups of migrants camping out in Greece's main port of Piraeus, leaving eight people injured and requiring treatment at nearby hospitals.

The clashes, believed to have been between Afghan and Syrian migrants, left the area strewn with rocks and broken glass. New protests were also reported at detention camps on the Greek islands of Lesbos and Chios, from where deportations to Turkey are due to start next week.

More than 50,000 refugees and migrants have been stranded in Greece after Balkan countries closed their borders to the massive flow of refugees pouring into Europe. Some 11,500 remain camped out at the border with Macedonia, ignoring instructions from the government to move to organized shelters. Hundreds of those camping out in Piraeus were boarding buses Thursday for newly created refugee camps elsewhere in Greece.

Government officials described the violence as minor.

In Athens, the government submitted draft legislation required for the landmark migration agreement reached this month by the European Union and Turkey to take full effect. The deal aims to break the smuggling rings that have brought hundreds of thousands of people from Turkey across the Aegean Sea to Greece.

Due to be voted on late Friday, the bill would upgrade Greek asylum services and set conditions for refugees and migrants to be sent back to Turkey from the Greek islands.

The returns are to start Monday, but most support staff promised by other EU countries have still not arrived on Greek islands, and the method of how to return the refugees is still being negotiated between the EU, Turkey and Greece.

Turkey's prime minister said the deal with the EU will go into effect as scheduled on Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI

Architect Zaha Hadid dies

Irene Kuan
Metro | Toronto

World-renowned British-Iraqi architect Dame Zaha Hadid, best known for her design of the London Aquatic Centre, has died after suffering a heart attack in Miami. She was 65.

"It is with great sadness that Zaha Hadid Architects have confirmed that Dame Zaha Hadid died suddenly in Miami in the early hours of this morning," according to a statement from her company.

Born in Baghdad, and based in the U.K., Hadid was perhaps the most famous female architect in the world, and was the first female recipient of many top industry awards, including the 2004 Pritzker Architecture Prize.

"Starchitect" Zaha Hadid
AFP/GETTY IMAGES

In 2015, she became the first solo female winner in 167 years to receive the Royal Institute of British Architects' Gold Medal.

Known as a true 'Starchitect,' a term given mostly to male architects, her innovative and futurist structures can be seen all over the world.

Queen Elizabeth honoured her with 'Dame' status in 2012.

Hadid's larger-than-life career faced many obstacles, in an industry that's still known to be male-dominated and often unfavourable to women. She frequently spoke about the prejudices she faced as a female architect.

VIRGINIA

State trooper shot dead at Greyhound bus station

Virginia State Police say a trooper has died after a shooting at a Greyhound bus station in Richmond.

Virginia State Police Superintendent Col. Steven Flaherty says the trooper, Chad Dermyer, died Thursday after being shot multiple times.

State Police have said two civilians were also shot at the terminal.

The gunman was shot dead by two other troopers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nintendo goes mobile

TECHNOLOGY

Revenue from mobile gaming surpassing consoles

Nintendo is partnering with Tokyo Internet firm DeNA to develop and operate new game apps based on Nintendo's intellectual property, including its iconic game characters.
CONTRIBUTED

After a promising launch in Japan, Nintendo's long-overdue foray into mobile is set for a much wider test.

The Japanese electronics maker's free to download Miitomo mobile app for iOS and Android went live in the U.S. Thursday. Nintendo says Miitomo is also available in numerous other counties including Canada and in several languages.

While Nintendo remains committed to the video console business it has a powerful impetus for branching out given that Candy Crush maker King and others have demonstrated that a single mobile game franchises can generate billion-dollar annual sales.

Industry research firm Newzoo estimates that mobile gaming revenue hit $30 billion (U.S.) last year, surpassing console gaming at $26.4 billion. Newzoo says while growth has cooled in North America and Europe, it remains explosive in Asia.

Nintendo is partnering with Tokyo Internet firm DeNA to develop and operate new game apps based on Nintendo's intellectual property, including its iconic game characters, for use on nearly ubiquitous mobile devices.

"With Miitomo, Nintendo takes its first step into the world of smart devices," said Scott Moffitt, Nintendo of America's executive vice president of sales and marketing.

Nintendo says the app was downloaded a million times in the first three days in Japan after its release on March 17, ranking as the most downloaded free app on both the App Store and Google Play.

The company, however, is playing catch up in the increasingly crowded mobile game space and its in app purchase strategy is unlikely to make up for a lack of paid app revenue in the early stages.

But analysts said the mobile offering could bring back players who migrated away from games on the company's dedicated hardware, such as the Wii and handheld DS devices.

"This should remove any doubts about the Nintendo brand's relevancy in the smartphone age," said Jefferies analyst Atul Goyal.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Free tax software is best for simple returns, says expert

With tax season upon us, some Canadians may be exploring new options for filing their returns this year.

Should you hire an accountant? Or do them yourself on a computer or on paper? Experts say the answer to that question depends on how complicated your financial situation is and how comfortable you are with taking on the task.

Last year, the Canada Revenue Agency received 23.4 million (81 per cent) electronic returns compared with 5.4 million (19 per cent) paper returns. It notes that the number of people filing their personal tax returns electronically, either on their own or via a tax professional, has been steadily increasing over the past five years.

If filing over the computer doesn't appeal to you, filers can still go the free route if they go to one of the free temporary volunteer-run tax preparation clinics across the country aimed at those with low to moderate incomes.

Dale Romanovsky, a chartered professional accountant, says free tax help and free software can help filers save money but it's really most beneficial for those with simple returns, while those who have more complicated filings should consider seeking in-person, professional help.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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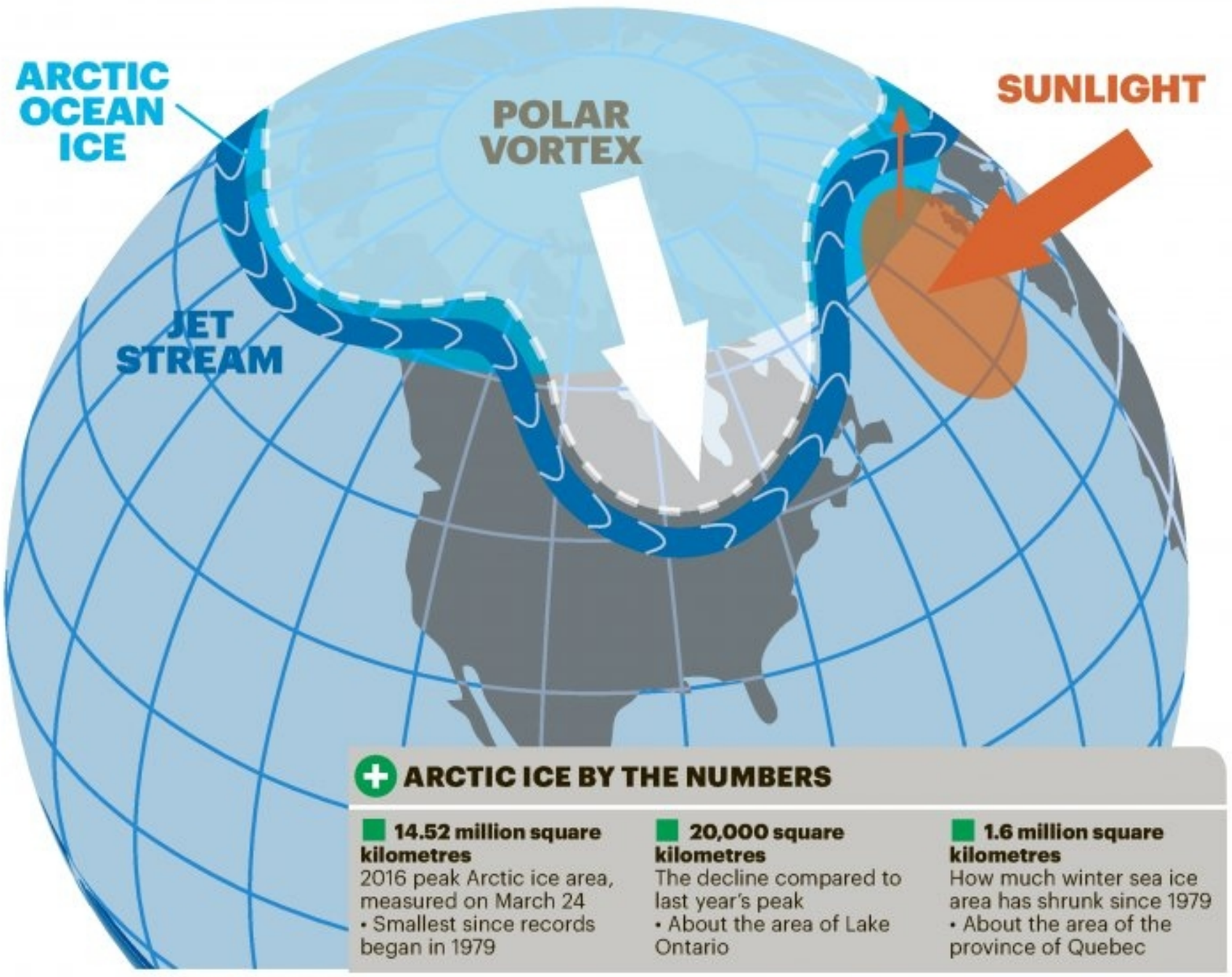
DECODED Climate shocker

NOW GLOBAL WARMING MAKES THINGS COLDER

The polar ice cap is the smallest we have ever seen it. Each winter, the vast arena of ice that covers the Arctic Ocean reaches a peak area big enough to cover all of Canada and about half the United States. This year is different. The ice's peak size is the smallest it's been in the 37 years we've measured it. Climate change is here, and **we could be in for some wild weather.**

WHAT'S GOING ON?
Scientists believe sea ice helps keep the circling mass of cold air we call the **polar vortex** close to the North Pole.

- As global average temperatures have climbed, the **Arctic Ocean ice** has shrunk. Arctic temperatures were 5.5 to 8.3 C above normal this season.
- With less ice to reflect **sunlight**, the ocean absorbs it.
- This triggers changes to pressure and temperature and causes the **jet stream** to wander and wobble.
- The result? Frigid **polar vortex** air travels south, unleashing cold snaps like the one expected in the next few days from Manitoba to the Maritimes. Brr!
- A meandering **jet stream** is also a recipe for extreme weather events like Hurricane Sandy.



ARCTIC ICE BY THE NUMBERS

14.52 million square kilometres
2016 peak Arctic ice area, measured on March 24
• Smallest since records began in 1979

20,000 square kilometres
The decline compared to last year's peak
• About the area of Lake Ontario

1.6 million square kilometres
How much winter sea ice area has shrunk since 1979
• About the area of the province of Quebec

GRAPHIC: ANDRÉS PLANA/METRO

CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

I can't keep up — now, any alcohol is bad for me?

What, now even one or two drinks a day is unhealthy? I'm so sick of conflicting health advice! — Felicia, Vancouver

Dear Felicia,

Believe me, as a boxed-wine aficionado, I'm upset about this too. An analysis out of the University of Victoria this month looked at 87 past studies about the relationship between drinking alcohol and rates of death from any cause. It cast doubt on years of evidence suggesting people who enjoy one or two drinks per day have lower rates of heart disease, diabetes and death than those who never drink at all. (That's *premature* death. The lifetime risk of death is 100 per cent). Here's the problem: 73 of these studies didn't sort the participants properly. Abstainers (people who don't drink and never have) were frequently lumped into the "non-drinkers" category along with people who currently abstain, but used to drink.

And why do people quit drinking? Often because of health problems or old age. Light drinkers misleadingly appear healthier in comparison.

After adjusting the data for that, there was little difference in death rates between light drinkers and teetotallers. Light drinkers are at higher risk of cancer death, but a lower risk of heart disease.

This is one paper, not the final word on the topic. But it shows the need to be careful interpreting observational studies of health outcomes at a big-picture, population level; so many variables are at play that it's hard to account for them all.

Here's what we do know: Any benefits of alcohol disappear above one or two drinks a day, and drinkers knocking back four or more risk addiction, serious health problems and early demise. But for most, light drinking is low-risk. I'll raise one or two glasses to that.

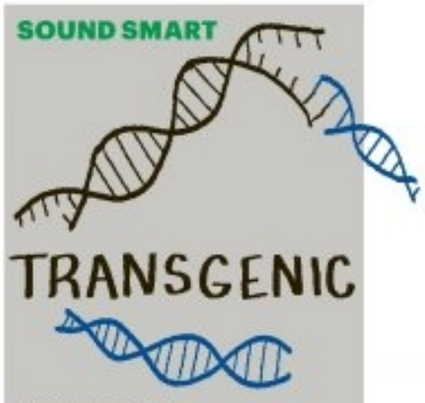
Science Question? Tweet @genna_buck

FINDINGS
Your week in science

FACE FACTS
Ohio State University researchers say just one facial expression is universal: the "Not Face." Wherever you are in the world, the crinkled brow, thin lips and raised chin mean, "I do not agree."

ZOOMED IN ON ZIKA
Images taken with a powerful cryo-electron microscope show the sugar molecules on the outer shell of the Zika virus are in a different place than on similar viruses such as dengue. Purdue University biologists believe those sticky sugars may play a role in how Zika latches onto brain cells.

SOUND SMART



DEFINITION
Transgenic living things have been engineered to contain genes from a different species. **Transgenic is a more accurate term than "genetically modified."**

USE IT IN A SENTENCE
"Marco spent all day in the grocery store looking for cereal that is not **transgenic** — he doesn't know overwhelming evidence shows transgenic foods are perfectly safe to eat."

PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan

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MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION DIGITAL

Linklater goes for the raunch

FILM

Newest film set in 1980, before the cultural backlash

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Writer/director Richard Linklater, maker of Boyhood and The Before Trilogy, poses for pictures in Toronto. His new film Everybody Wants Some!! is a "spiritual sequel" to his early hit Dazed and Confused. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Richard Linklater's new film Everybody Wants Some!! is set in that sweet spot between Saturday Night Fever and the Reagan Years.

Ripe with feathered hair, bell bottom pants and milk crates used as LP storage, it's the story of college life over the course of one weekend in 1980 set to the throbbing beat of disco and new wave music.

"It was a raunchy time," says Linklater. "It was pretty hedonistic. Sex, drugs and rock and roll. I had to impose that back on my cast.

"Disco was sex. Dancing was foreplay. You were hoping to keep it going and that it would get personal. The humour was really raunchy. It was not innocent but there was a certain kind of playfulness to it."

The 55-year-old director calls the 1980s "a good time for me. A good time to be in your twenties. I was that guy who took his album collection and his music and his speakers off to college. My entire net worth at that age was in music."

"You do a movie to examine your feelings or what you think," he says. "I thought a lot about my own life at that time and also the culture. It's my little anthropological look (at 1980).

"I came out of it thinking that was the end of something. The eighties got much more serious. There was the AIDS epidemic but also there was the cultural backlash. There was the Reagan administration, Pat Robertson, (Jerry) Falwell and it's kind of a war and not only a war on drugs.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Midnight Special ★★★★
Everybody Wants Some!! ★★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

"They were trying to move the culture back to the fifties or some mythical past before all this corruption, i.e. the freedoms of the sixties, women's liberation. That was really in full gear by '82, '83 so I look at this and think, this was the last time there was that unabashed, raunchy hedonistic pure fun.

"I look at it and go, that was a good time to be young because that was all going to change."

The Texas-born filmmaker says he spent his '80s college years underground, immersed in punk rock. "It was getting kind of ugly in accepted culture so I zoned out a lot of it."

Since then he has made a career chronicling contemporary suburban culture in films like Slacker, Dazed and Confused and most recently in the twelve-years-in-the-making Boyhood.

Along the way he's learned a thing or two about how society is changing.

"I think the culture has actually changed less and less," he says.

"I observed that on Boyhood. I thought the world would look a lot different in those twelve years. If you take 1969 to 1981 you got a lot of different looks, cars, everything. In Boyhood nothing changed. The phones changed but the cars all looked the same, the hairstyles.

"I think we've hit a wall. Technology is so quick moving that it satisfies that desire in us for change. Punk comes out of (the idea) that I want something new.

"I don't think humans feel that deep need for demonstrable rejection of the old and embracing of the new because they feel there is so much being satisfied technologically. Whatever urge that was to stick a safety pin in your cheek and go create a new dance, you don't see that anymore."

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The faith and fear of being a parent

MIDNIGHT SPECIAL

Jeff Nichols talks anxiety, ambivalence in sci-fi road film

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Joel Edgerton, Michael Shannon, Jaeden Lieberher and Kirsten Dunst in Midnight Special.
BEN ROTHSTEIN/COURTESY WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT/TNS

In the films Take Shelter and Mud, director Jeff Nichols explored themes of social anxiety caused by fear of the unknown.

When I suggest that his new movie, Midnight Special — a sci-fi road film about a father and a son with special powers — continues that examination, he agrees, but only to a point.

"I certainly think you could make that statement and it would be fair," he says, "but it doesn't exactly line up with what I was thinking.

"I was thinking about what it is to be a parent. I think being a parent is to have faith in the unknown.

"You don't know what your children are going to grow up to be. You don't know what's going to happen to them. You don't know if they are going to make it all the way.

"You have to have faith in who they can be, who they are developing into. Who they are currently. I think that is what parenthood is and I think that is why there is so much fear and anxiety that comes from being a parent."

Nichols says he originally came up with the idea for a "sci-fi government chase film" but adds, "That could be really silly, so I think it is up to me as a filmmaker to apply these kind of personal feelings I have and my relationships to the locations and to the world at large to try to ground this film and give it some kind of actual purpose."

> I think my films point toward hope but don't fully embrace it.
> Jeff Nichols

To complete the picture, Nichols cast Michael Shannon as the father. A frequent collaborator, Shannon has starred in all of Nichols' films, including the upcoming Loving.

"I think he makes me a better writer, especially in a film like Midnight Special where I'm trying to reduce the need for backstory to be delivered through monologues.

"When you have a person like Mike, he fills all the spaces between the lines with all that subtext.

"He carries it on his face, in his countenance. He is the complete story and he doesn't even have to say a word."

Midnight Special is the extraordinary kind of sci-fi movie that teases out the information bit by bit.

We learn enough to stay involved and are treated to several spectacular and exciting scenes along the way, but when it comes time to put a period on the story, Nichols instead uses an ellipsis in a metaphysical ending that will mean different things to different people.

It owes a nod to his old hero Stephen Spielberg but feels distinctly like a Jeff Nichols film.

"If you look at ET and the bicycle flying and all these other moments that are classic moments in Spielberg films, they are wonderful. I don't do that.

"For better and for worse, I don't do that. Maybe it's because I live in the modern age and am a bit more of a pessimist.

"I don't consider myself a cynic. I like films that ultimately are hopeful, but there is a different kind of conclusion in my films than his films.

"I think my films point toward hope but don't fully embrace it. I think that is the difference.

"It could also be the difference between a blockbuster and whatever this is going to be, but that is who I am as a person."

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Manage your spring allergy symptoms

We all look forward to the first signs of spring. Unfortunately for many Canadians, the sniffling, sneezing and watery eyes of annoying spring allergies can overshadow the enjoyment of the season.

The big trigger is pollen. As plants bloom and trees come to life, pollen is released into the air. We breathe in the pollen and our immune systems respond by sending antibodies to attack the allergens. This causes a release of chemicals called histamines into the blood, setting off allergic symptoms. Typically, the hotter and drier the weather, the more pollen is released. When wind picks up, pollen counts are higher because the wind carries it further. When it rains, the counts are lower as the water washes pollen away.

One way to help manage allergy symptoms is with over-the-counter remedies designed to reduce symptoms. Products fall into these general categories:

Antihistamines
These help to temporarily reduce sneezing, runny nose and itching by lowering the histamines your body produces. There are various formulations that do this: desloratadine (e.g., Aerius), loratadine (e.g., Claratin), cetirizine (e.g., Reactine) and sedatives (e.g., Benadryl). You may have to try different formulations to find the one that works best for you, but always make sure to read and follow the label.

YOUR ALLERGY ACTION PLAN

- Stay inside when pollen counts are highest: early in the day and when the weather is dry and windy.
- Keep doors and windows shut and regularly vacuum and dust your home.
- Use high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters if your home has forced-air heating or air conditioning.
- Wash your clothes and hair after you've spent time outside.
- Leave the lawn mowing and weeding to someone else in your family.

ISTOCK

Nasal sprays
These can help clear nasal passages. Some are decongestants, shrinking the blood vessels in the nasal passages to help relieve congestion for a few days only. As an alternative, a saline spray used to rinse and moisturize your nasal passages is a good choice (e.g., Hydrasense).

Anti-itch creams
Those with antihistamines (e.g., Benadryl) can help relieve itchy skin due to allergies.

Eye drops
Some eye drops contain an antihistamine that helps relieve itchy, watery eyes and a decongestant that can help relieve redness. Decongestants should not be used for more than a few days.

The medications mentioned in this article may not be right for you. Always read and follow the label before using and make sure to consult your health-care professional or your local Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacist to find the best solution for you.

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INSIGHT

Fans, critics clash over superheroes

Rotten Tomatoes gave Batman v Superman a lukewarm 29 per cent rating while taking in $166.1 million in the North American box office. HANDOUT

BATMAN V SUPERMAN

Blockbuster reaction shows widening gap

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice didn't do well with critics, but was a giant hit with fans. The New Republic called it an "indigestible, posturing, two-and-a-half-hour mope-fest," while Time Out blasted it as "a $250 million tombstone for a genre in dire need of a break."

In my written review I gave it an unenthusiastic two out of five star rating, describing it as "essentially a long trailer for the next DC superhero ensemble movie tagged on to a WrestleMania style smack down." On my regular Canada AM review segment I joked it should have been subtitled Yawn of Justice.

About four seconds after I wrapped my television review the first of many tweets and Facebook responses started cluttering up my social media pages. Most of them were variations on this one from Frank in Nova Scotia: "@RichardCrouse good thing #DawnOfJustice was made for fans and not critics. These are usually the good ones. Can't wait to see it."

I hope Frank liked the movie. I suspect he was part of the opening weekend's overwhelmingly male demographic — 66 per cent of the audience were male, 63 per cent between the ages of 18 and 34 — who flocked to the film.

Superhero movies tend to accentuate the divide between critics and fans and rarely has the gap been wider and deeper than it is in the reaction to Batman v Superman.

The thing is, there shouldn't be a divide between professional moviegoers and fans. We may express our opinions differently, but as Devin Faraci pointed out recently, film critics are film critics because they are passionate about movies.

For sure there are critics who automatically dismiss superhero movies, or romantic comedies. But no one forces you to read them. Choose your favourite film critic like you would a friend, someone who shares your enthusiasms, or challenges them.

THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

Make no mistake: Harrison wasn't simply a gruff glutton — although he did suffer from gout, and he sure did love to drink

I was going to write about why you should go see The Lobster, a beautifully odd film that has a 92 per cent score on Rotten Tomatoes, instead of Batman v. Superman, which brought in $424.1 million internationally last weekend despite its dismal 29 per cent rating.

But I'm not in the mood to be patronizing, at least not today, because Jim Harrison has passed away. He wrote poetry, fiction, and nonfiction, the latter of which has meant a great deal to me.

You might know Harrison as the author of Legends of the Fall, a novella he wrote in 1979 that was adapted into a Hollywood film starring Brad Pitt and Anthony Hopkins in 1994.

But "Mr. Harrison was also known for his essays on food," the New York Times wrote on Sunday of the 78-year-old who died on Saturday. "He was perhaps the leading exponent of the small sub-genre in which shotguns and shoe leather play a far greater role than balsamic reduction."

Make no mistake: Harrison wasn't simply a gruff glutton — although he did suffer from gout, and he sure did love to drink: his definition of a glass of wine with dinner meant a 16-ounce pour.

Harrison was a true Epicurean, where "a simple brunch of leftovers" might include "a pasta made from Swiss chard, fresh tomatoes, and copious garlic, and a duck leg and thigh."

Existentialism, after all, requires a healthy appetite.

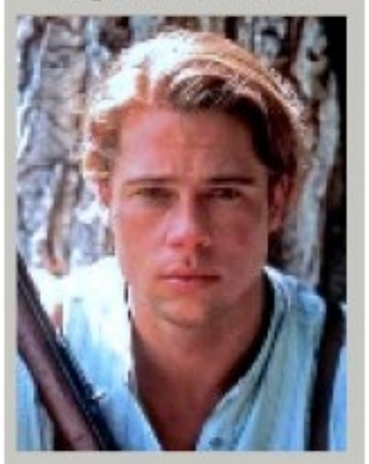
"I get real tired and hungry trying to figure out the nature of existence, the nature of nature, and the apparent stillness at the heart of being," he wrote.

I fell hard for the way Harrison described living — in between stuffing truffles into a woodcock he'd shot and dinners with Jack Nicholson or Orson Welles — in his nonfiction, which has been called misogynistic.

But discoursing on nature, sex, art, food, death and the hows and whys behind why the hell we're here, transcends gender, if you ask me.

He did this often during hunting expeditions at his cabin in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where he'd prepare both simple and lavish meals with his best friends, Montana-based painter Russell Chatham (Nicholson collects his art) and the Frenchman Guy de la Valdene. What I would've done to have pulled up a chair to that table.

THE MOVIE: Legends of the Fall



THE MEAL: Bone-in cooked ham

The cabin is also where Harrison, whose wife of 55 years, Linda, passed away in October, sought solitude during depressive bouts. He was like a modern-day Thoreau, whom he quoted often — along with references to Buddha, Rilke, and Chinese poets — in the way he chronicled his observations of nature, which was never convoluted.

Mostly, he was in awe of it: the small feeling you get under a night sky, thick with dark and stars.

And then there was food: "On my deathbed I will not care how I looked in the mirror, or to others, for that matter," he wrote 25 years ago in an essay called One Foot in the Grave, "but I will rehearse with pleasure the tablespoon dipping inaudibly into the kilo of beluga."

I can't afford caviar but I did have a bone-in cooked ham, which I glazed with a slick paste of apricot preserves, Dijon mustard and thyme, and served alongside scalloped potatoes and a simple cabbage salad.

We watched Legends of the Fall and argued over who'd seen it more times. It sure is clunkier than I remember.

But that wasn't Harrison's fault.

(And let's not blame Brad.)

I cried all the same.

NEW FILM

For con man, lying is just a way of life

The man who nearly stole over 70 million euros from France's business and banking elite is a serial manipulator who sees fraud not as a crime but as a way of life, according to those behind a new film based on the con artist's exploits.

Je Compte sur Vous — released in English under the name Thank You for Calling — is based on the exploits of the French-Israeli Gilbert Chikli, who engineered rogue payments by phoning companies and pretending to be the firm's CEO or a French intelligence agent. Those behind the film, which was released in France on Dec. 30, describe Chikli as a chameleon of a man, a brazen charmer whose boasts suggest he has yet to abandon his criminal career.

"Chikli is an unstoppable seduction machine," said director Pascal Elbe in a recent interview in Paris. "For him it's a job; it's definitely not a con."

The movie Thank You for Calling is based on the exploits of French-Israeli con man Gilbert Chikli, who would pretend to be a CEO or intelligence agent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chikli's heists were astounding in their daring. With a little background research and a well-placed phone call, Chikli could cajole or bluster his way into organizing the transfer of several hundred thousand, a million or even millions of euros to bank accounts in Dubai, Russia, China or Hong Kong.

His victims put down the phone convinced they were speaking to their boss or to a genuine French spy. One spoke of being taken in by a man with "an extremely powerful tone of voice and self-assurance." Two more were convinced — somehow — to withdraw cash and hand-deliver it to bars in Paris. When tricks or charm didn't work, Chikli turned to bullying; another employee was threatened with losing her job if she didn't immediately organize the transfer of nearly $2 million to the U.K.

"He adapts to his interlocutor; that's what's crazy," Elbe said. "He improvises. He reacts. He riffs off what you're saying and gives you back what you want to hear."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro TRAVEL
Your essential daily news
London takes best destination in TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Awards

Kansas City, Kansas City here I come

MUSIC

Good music awaits in this city known for jazz and blues

Kansas City has a wide-open selection of bars to help the business traveller shake off that last meeting and down beverages poured from full-size bottles not found in the mini-bar.

There are also loads of taverns that aim to sully your gin and quiet with music — DJs, karaoke, a guy on a guitar.

And then there is the Blue Room, where patrons head when the need for good music pushes aside those lower-brain urges. You don't go to the Blue Room just to have a drink, chit chat or get rid of another night.

You go to the Blue Room to listen, and not in a background-fill-in-the-gaps kind of way, but in a "Hey — pay attention!" kind of way.

The Blue Room is a small two-tiered space adjoining Kansas City's American Jazz Museum in the Historic 18th & Vine Jazz District, a few miles from the hotels and convention locales of Crown Center, downtown and the Country Club Plaza. It's dark, the bar is stocked, the tables small.

On a recent Friday night, by 8:40 p.m., apart from a couple bar stools, the place was standing-room-only packed. The draw that night was the James Ward Band, a six-piece contemporary jazz group that hushed the crowd and set one gentleman in an oversized sport coat dancing alone in front of the bar.

Most everyone else sat quietly, drinks before them, heads facing forward, soaking it in. A few raised their voices and clinked glasses during the set, but they were a minority.

The Blue Room "is a working jazz club exhibit" that hosts veteran musicians and new bands, locals and the internationally known, said Christopher Burnett, marketing and communications manager for the American Jazz Museum. Ida McBeth makes regular appearances.

It's open Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, with the last Monday of the month usually for big bands, and the last Thursday for Latin Jazz and Salsa. "We've got some pretty good Latin bands here in Kansas City, and they pack the place," Burnett said. "And, we have about a dozen big bands in Kansas City that are off the chain."

The Blue Room also holds a free jam session on Monday evenings where musicians of all skill levels can sit in with veterans. For the next trip to Kansas City, pack your sax.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IF YOU GO

The Blue Room: 1616 E. 18th St., Kansas City, Missouri; club.americanjazzmuseum.org. Open Mondays and Thursday, 5 p.m.-11 p.m. (entertainment starts at 7 p.m., admission free); Fridays, 5 p.m.- 1 a.m.; Saturdays, 7 p.m.-1 a.m. (entertainment Friday-Saturday begins 8:30 p.m. with $10 cover unless otherwise noted).

The Blue Room. ASSOCIATED PRESS

Area Museums: The American Jazz Museum and Negro Leagues Baseball Museum are located in the same building as the Blue Room. The museums are open Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sundays noon-6 p.m.; combined tickets to both museums cost $15, adults, and $8, children 5-12, or for one museum, $10, adults, or $6, children.

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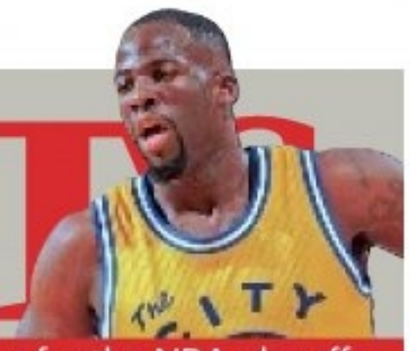

"It is something we want to do": Draymond Green whose 68-7 Warriors will go for a record 73 wins instead of resting for the NBA playoffs

New boss Dalglish hopes to harness his fresh Fury

NASL

All change but Ottawa look to replicate last year's success

NY Cosmos star striker Raul, left, goes after the ball against Ottawa Fury defender Mason Trafford during last season's NASL championship match. DON EMMERT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Ottawa Fury FC turned heads by winning the North American Soccer League fall season in 2015, losing just once in 26 matches en route to a 3-2 championship game loss to the New York Cosmos.

But the off-season brought change to Ottawa, plenty of it, in the form of new coach Paul Dalglish and a revamped roster. The new-look Fury and Cosmos renew acquaintances Sunday on the opening weekend of NASL play.

Gone are NASL coach of the year Marc Dos Santos and three members (Ryan Richter, Colin Falvey and Canadian Mason Trafford) of a back four that yielded a league-low 23 goals in 30 games while compiling a 15-4-11 record over the spring and fall seasons. Captain Richie Ryan, who sat in front of the back four, has also moved on.

MLS veterans Andrew Wiedeman (Toronto FC), Drew Beckie (Columbus), Jeremy Gagnon-Lapare (Montreal), Sinisa Ubiparipovic (Montreal, New York Red Bulls) and Tom Heinemann (Columbus, Vancouver) have also left.

Dalglish was appointed coach and GM on Nov. 20, five days after the championship loss. Dos Santos has since resurfaced as coach of the Swope Park Rangers, in the USL.

"It was a baptism of fire really when I got here," said Dalglish, son of Liverpool legend Kenny Dalglish.

Only six of the 18 Ottawa players that dressed for the NASL final are back.

"Much more than expected," Dalglish said of the changes. "But we're very comfortable with the turnover that we had."

On the plus side, NASL Golden Glove winner Romuald Peiser remains in goal. The 36-year-old from France compiled a 648-minute scoreless streak last season.

"One of the most undervalued positions on the field," said Dalglish. "Because we naturally place more importance on events that happen rather than events that are prevented from happening ... We're lucky to have him and it gives us a great foundation to build on"

Veteran midfielder Julian de Guzman takes over as captain, joined this season by fellow Canadian international Marcel de Jong.

"Top-level players for our level," said Dalglish.

The Fury succeeded last year on a stingy defence and dangerous counter-attack. Dalglish says his approach is slightly more attack-oriented, "looking to control the game with the ball rather than without the ball. It will be different but we want it to be equally if not more successful."

It worked in pre-season with Ottawa scoring freely. Training camp came with a cost, however, with defender Kyle Venter and forward Pablo Dyego lost to long-term knee injuries.

Canadian forward Carl Haworth has excelled in camp. "Absolutely brilliant," said Dalglish

Interesting roster additions include Brazilian playmaker Gerardo Bruna and Israeli forward Idan Vered.

Bruna, 24, was on Real Madrid's books at the age of 11 before joining Liverpool. In 2002, Bruna ranked No. 10 on World Soccer magazine's list of the "top 50 most exciting teen footballers," keeping company with the likes of Sergio Aguero, Gareth Bale, Karim Benzema, Giovani Dos Santos and Angel Di Maria. THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE LOWDOWN

Paul Dalglish, 39, was head coach and technical director of the Austin Aztex in Texas before joining Ottawa. The Scottish-born Dalglish came to North America to join the Houston Dynamo in 2006 and went into coaching in 2008.

He played for a variety of clubs in Britain including Newcastle, Norwich City, Wigan, Blackpool, Livingston and Hibernian.

IN BRIEF

Jones-Cormier to go ahead

Former UFC light heavyweight champion Jon "Bones" Jones will have to take anger management and driver improvement classes and do more community service for violating his probation from a hit-and-run crash.

His latest troubles came after being stopped last week for allegedly drag racing in downtown Albuquerque, not far from his gym. The UFC said Thursday that Jones will still headline UFC 197 on April 23 in Las Vegas when he fights light heavyweight champion Daniel Cormier. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sandoval benched by Sox

Pablo Sandoval has become a $95 million bench player. The Boston Red Sox announced before their final spring training game Thursday that Travis Shaw, a 25-year-old who made his big league debut last May, will be their starting third baseman. Sandoval hit .245 last season with 10 homers and 47 RBIs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Price returns to practice

Montreal goaltender Carey Price practised with the team before the Canadiens' game Thursday night at Tampa Bay. It was his first full practice since suffering a lower-body injury on Nov. 25. "I didn't try to shoot to hard or pick too many corners," captain Max Pacioretty said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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RECIPE Chicken Chili Tacos

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This recipe will be your newest obsession for so many reasons (easy, fast, inexpensive) but the main reason we make it all time is because it's just so darn delicious.

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 8 hours

Ingredients
- 6 boneless, skinless chicken thighs
- 1 1/2 cups prepared pico de gallo or salsa
- 1/4 cup fresh lime juice (about 1 1/2 limes)
- 2 teaspoons cumin seeds, lightly toasted
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 12 taco shells (crisp or soft/flour or corn)

Directions

1. Place chicken, pico de gallo or salsa, lime juice, cumin seeds and garlic in a slow cooker and stir to combine. Cover and cook on low for 6 hours. (You can also cook on high for 3 hours.)

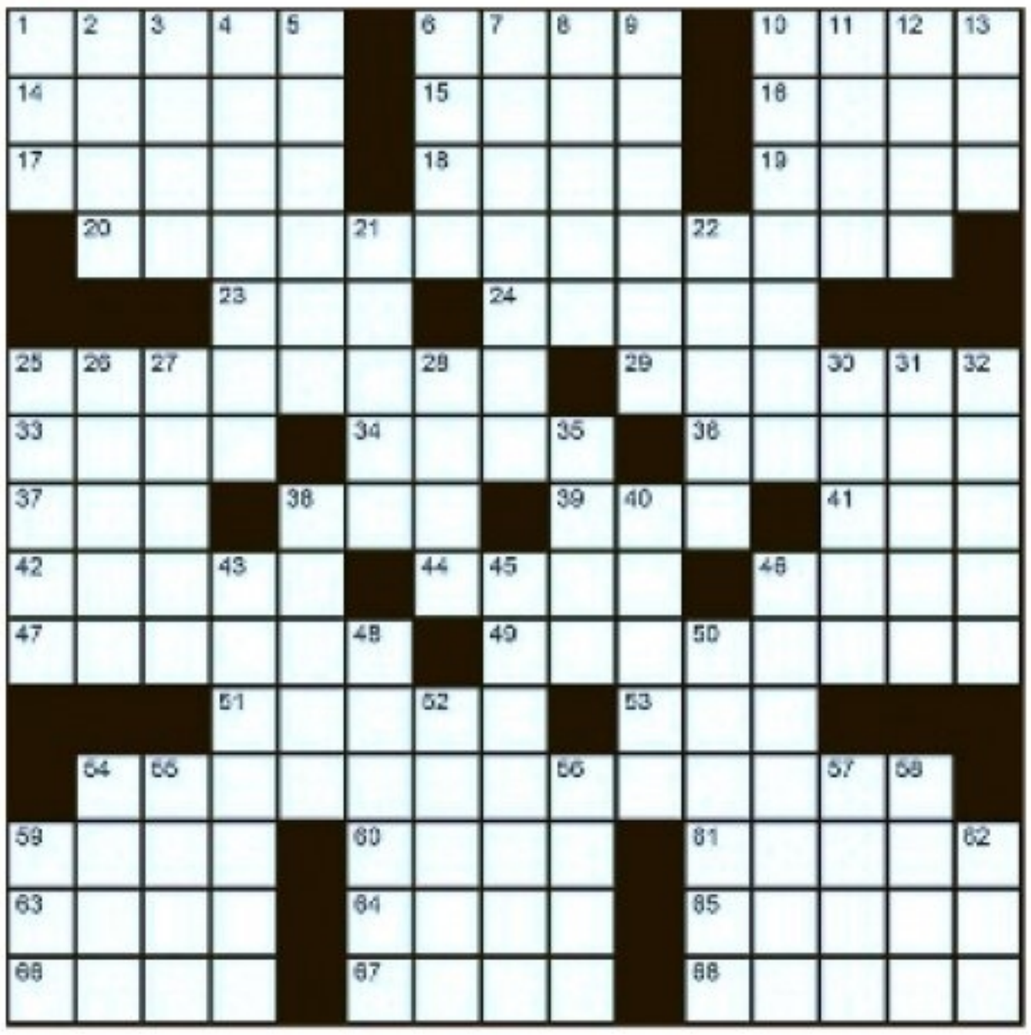
2. Allow to cool a bit. Scoop the chicken out with a big slotted spoon and place it in a large serving bowl. Use two forks to pull the meat apart. The chicken will shred easily. Stir in some cooking juice from the pot and top with the cilantro.

3. Place the shredded chicken, your taco shells and desired fixings on the table and let everyone put together their perfect taco.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Soooo 2015
6. PEI export, cutely
10. Superior at a French monastery
14. Tropical greeting
15. Other
16. Extra
17. Get rid of mist
18. German industrial region
19. Adjective's follower
20. Eugene Levy's anchorman character on "SCTV": 2 wds.
23. "__ for two and me for..."
24. Botanical casings
25. Bedding
29. Earthquakes
33. Genesis brother
34. Call for
36. Toronto __ Centre
37. Poultry product
38. Beaufort __
39. Un-new
41. Historic time
42. Jacket sported by a '60s rocker
44. Former currency in Italy
46. Apex
47. Bury
49. The despairing masses in Victor Hugo's Les Miserables
51. Perhaps
53. Ms. Jillian
54. Oh, God! Jim Carrey comedy of 2003: 2 wds.
59. Umpire's call about a ball!
60. Hillside
61. Sophia of 2009's "Nine"
63. In __ of (Replacing)
64. Cravings
65. Upper crust
66. Alberta town
67. Scandinavian story
68. Resign

DOWN
1. Suit shoulder insert
2. Helm position
3. TV-watcher's spot
4. Abbreviate
5. Bird of Jove's baby
6. Follower of 'Que' twice, in song
7. Feathering
8. Movies attendant
9. Skin layer
10. John Doe's memory loss
11. Barbarian
12. Very dry, as per champagne
13. 'Velvet' suffix
21. "The __ Mutiny" (1954)
22. Rolling Stones album of 1969: 'Let It __'
25. Panorama
26. Tom __ (Robert Duvall's character in 'Godfather' movies)
27. After __ (Mints)
28. Oscar-winner Patricia
30. "__ Magnolias" (1989)
31. The __ of the story...
32. Cobra, for one
35. "__ the Explorer"
38. Shrub variety
40. Hawaiian-style veranda
43. Twin brother of Remus in ancient Roman mythology
45. Reykjavik's realm
46. Puny puncture
48. "Ta ta!": 2 wds.
50. Fished
52. Divulged
54. Swelter
55. Bemoaned
56. Raised flatland
57. Clip
58. Fabled snow creature
59. Andy Capp's wife
62. Clear

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a good day to count your blessings, and one of the biggest blessings for Aries this year is that you can improve your job. You also can improve your health.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This year, more than a decade in the past and a decadent future, you have the best chance to enjoy vacations — a major vacation or a series of little getaways.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is an excellent year to benefit from real-estate deals. You will improve your home life and all your family relationships.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
A positive state of mind is the secret of happiness. And this is what you have in spades this year. It's easy to be optimistic!

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You can earn more money this year, which is good news for your sign — you like to spend big. You'll be laughing all the way to the bank.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
With lucky Jupiter in your sign now, life couldn't be better. Of course, nothing is perfect, because it never is. But you have the advantage now over all the other signs.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your spiritual life will be more important now for a number of reasons. Welcome this opportunity to be introspective and come to terms with what really matters in life.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is such a popular year for you! Enjoy meeting new friends. And enjoy joining clubs, groups and organizations. Remember: Your relations with others will benefit you this year.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is the perfect year to put your name up in lights. It's easy to impress others, because they see you in such positive terms. (Milk this for all it's worth

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Grab every opportunity to travel, because you want to expand your horizons this year. This is also a good year for publishing, the media and higher education.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Gifts, goodies and the wealth of others will benefit you this year. Keep your pockets open and enjoy this advantage.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
This is a wonderful year for relationships for you. In fact, this is the best year in over a decade for Pisces people to get married. Oh my.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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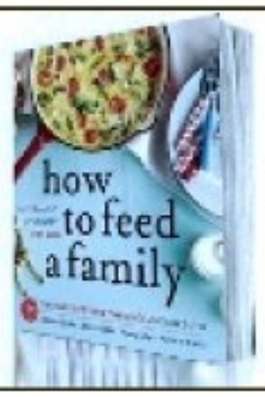

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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2	7	9	6	1	8	4	3	5
5	3	1	7	4	9	2	6	8
4	6	8	3	2	5	1	7	9
1	4	6	2	9	3	5	8	7
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8	9	7	5	6	4	3	1	2
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9	8	3	4	7	2	6	5	1
7	1	5	9	3	6	8	2	4

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